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Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 3 October 2016, at 3 p.m.

Chair: Mr. Djani ..... (Indonesia)

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General debate (*continued*)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

General debate (*continued*)

1. **Mr. Kuwari** (Qatar) said that translating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into progress on the ground would require resource mobilization and international partnerships that took into account the different capacities and priorities of individual countries. His country's commitment to sustainable development was reflected in its Constitution, it national legislation and its Vision 2030 programme, which focused on economic growth, social development, environmental protection and women's empowerment.

2. Progress on the Doha Round negotiations was essential to achieving the Goal 17 target of promoting a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization. International cooperation should be conducted on the basis of mutual interest and respect for national sovereignty. His country had hosted a number of conferences on South-South cooperation. It had also contributed to international efforts to deal with the unprecedented number of refugees, and, during the high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants held on the margins of the current session of the General Assembly, it had stressed the need to address the roots of the refugee crisis. Qatar had also been instrumental in establishing the Global Dryland Alliance to combat desertification. He once again urged the international community to support the permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.

3. **Mr. Khoshroo** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that in the first year of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Islamic Republic of Iran had determined the responsibilities of various ministries and organizations for follow-up and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals and had established a national network for sustainable development . In the second year, his country intended to submit its voluntary national report to the high-level political forum on sustainable development. National priorities had been set for addressing poverty eradication, health protection, water and sanitation; developing renewable energy and improving energy efficiency; tackling climate change; combating desertification, deforestation and sand and dust storms; and protecting biodiversity and reducing disaster risk.

4. At the policy and institutional levels, two sets of overall policy guidelines for strengthening a resilient national economy and protecting the environment had been adopted. The first set of guidelines focused on improving economic growth and promoting social and environmental development, while the second set was concerned with enhancing the protection of the environment and promoting the green economy and low-carbon industries. The sixth national development plan addressed the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the domestic level, and the recently adopted country programme documents for 2017-2021 were inspired by the Agenda.

5. The region was confronting severe challenges in implementing the 2030 Agenda. Those included not only poverty, land degradation, water scarcity, hotter climate conditions and extensive drought, but also terrorism and extremist violence. Such challenges would exacerbate poverty and environmental destruction, forcing Governments to spend limited resources on fighting insecurity rather than focusing on development.

6. Effective solutions needed to be found for global issues through enhanced cooperation among States Members of the United Nations. While some progress had been made in that regard, various grave challenges remained unresolved. In particular, measures to implement the Sustainable Development Goals must be ambitious, fully inclusive, and non-discriminatory. More effective international support and solidarity were required through capacity-building, technology transfer, trade facilitation, and access to financial resources, as well as refraining from any unilateral or coercive economic, financial or trade measures.

7. The United Nations system must provide an integrated and coherent response. It should play a critical, effective and coordinating role in strengthening the global partnership for sustainable development. United Nations operational activities for development must be enhanced and strengthened to support Member States in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda.

8. **Ms. Nazaire** (Haiti) said that one year after the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, the geopolitical context of their implementation was not encouraging. The lessons drawn from the 2008 financial crisis, and especially the reforms enacted, fell far short of the requirements of the situation. Global warming remained an existential threat, especially for small island developing States like Haiti, and made it urgent to find good solutions. It was essential for cooperation to be strengthened, best practices disseminated, experiences shared and specific modalities of action finetuned in the social, technical and especially financial sphere.

9. Haiti faced significant challenges in eradicating poverty and promoting equitable and sustainable development. Progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals had been impeded by latent structural deficiencies and by natural disasters and health challenges which had overwhelmed the nation's resilience. After 12 years of providing effective humanitarian and security aid, the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti was preparing for a gradual withdrawal from her country. In addition, the first round of presidential elections and partial legislative elections would be held on 9 October 2016. Necessary adjustments had been made to the electoral process to guarantee free, fair and inclusive elections. It was a critical time to consolidate democracy and institutional stability, the basis for all balanced and sustainable macroeconomic growth.

10. Her Government intended to prioritize the targets and indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals by integrating them into its poverty-reduction and development plans. With the continuing support of its partners, and especially through triangular and South-South cooperation, it would continue to strengthen policy implementation at all levels, in both the public and the private sectors, and with civil society organizations and local communities.

11. The Declaration on the Right to Development must continue to guide the work of the Committee. Moreover, as a focus of emigration, her country was particularly concerned about the issue of refugees and migrants. Beyond the current crises that had been caused by armed conflicts, the global nature of the phenomenon of migration and especially economic migration must be put back in perspective and its legitimacy recognized The considerable benefits that migrants brought to their destination countries and their countries of origin must be better defined and the legal arsenal and means of recourse needed to be strengthened in order to protect the rights of migrant workers and their families. .

12. **Mr. Kononuchenko** (Russian Federation) said that since the General Assembly and other bodies shared responsibility for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Committee must adhere strictly to its mandate, focusing on trade and economic issues; global governance; national capacity-building to address environmental degradation; and enhancement of United Nations development mechanisms. Priority should be accorded to persistent negative trends in the world economy, which could slow achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in the least developed countries and countries in special situations. Discussions should be intensified on questions of the fair regulation of the problem of debt and strengthened tax regulation, including the issue of tax shelters; establishment of a transparent and non-discriminatory international trade system, taking into account the issue of the negative trend towards the formation of closed regional economic associations; and improved technology transfer, including in the context of combating climate change.

13. The quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system would play a major role in enhancing assistance to Member States in implementing Agenda 2030. The review would provide objective answers on ways to increase financing for United Nations operational agencies, enhance coordination between country teams and host country Governments, improve accountability mechanisms and expand national representation in the management of the United Nations development system.

14. His delegation was prepared to contribute to the improvement of the Committee's methods of work while abiding by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and also relevant General Assembly resolutions concerning revitalization of the Committee.

15. **Mr. Skinner-Klee** (Guatemala) said that while the adoption of the 2030 Agenda represented a new and transformative universal vision of sustainable

development, many questions remained regarding the implementation of the Agenda, meeting the needs of countries in special situations, and restructuring the development system of the United Nations. The Committee must focus on the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social, and environmental. Only in that way could greater consistency be achieved between decisions and implementation.

16. As a middle-income country, Guatemala attached great importance to the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, which would provide an opportunity to develop a more integrated and consistent design for the operation of the United Nations and its agencies, and to define the way in which countries would approach the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda, taking into account the priorities of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small countries and small island developing States, as well as middle-income countries. The review would be a good time to analyse experience, lessons learned, and best practices in order to achieve consensus on appropriate and transparent methods in the interests of countries, which must be effective actors in their own development.The next forum on financing for development follow-up should be the principal mechanism for constructive follow-up on the commitments of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, to avoid the weak results of the previous session.

17. The New Urban Agenda would serve as a roadmap for sustainable urban development over the next 20 years. It would help alleviate poverty, enhance the quality of life and combat environmental degradation, climate change and urban migration.

18. The twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-22) would provide an opportunity to strengthen the commitment to work together to take strategic action in the areas of climate change, sustainable use of natural resources and disaster risk management. Almost 10 million people in Central America alone were affected by the El Niño phenomenon. The region was highly vulnerable to extreme weather events and natural disasters, and therefore needed to work in coordination with the United Nations through its programmes and specialized agencies on those issues. Because El Niño affected the most vulnerable populations, a culture of prevention and resiliency must be fostered in the region in order to prevent recurrent humanitarian crises. Emergency assistance provided short-term relief but did not contribute to long-term resilience.

19. Globalization and interdependence would be key to the work of the Committee, especially regarding international migration and development. Those issues were closely related, since lack of development led people to migrate in search of a better life. The migration crisis demanded a strategic response that focused on its underlying structural causes. Migration must no longer be seen as a problem, but rather a challenge to be faced. It was an unescapable reality, and was an issue that was local, national, regional and global.

20. As a testament to its commitment to the undertakings of the 2030 Agenda and related agreements, Guatemala had made a commitment to present its voluntary national review during the next session of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in July 2017.

21. **Mr. Rattray** (Jamaica) said that in its deliberations on the 2030 Agenda, the Committee must remain mindful that it was creating a normative framework for addressing issues that directly affected the quality of life and sometimes the very survival of people. It should focus on securing deliverables for the people and fulfil the promise of leaving no one behind.

22. As a small island developing State, Jamaica fully recognized the need to increase efforts to implement the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda provided the basis for the mobilization of a portion of the investment capital that would be required to underwrite the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and especially the Sustainable Development Goals. Although financing needs far outpaced available public resources, the pool of global savings was sufficient to address those needs. Nevertheless, new and effective methods needed to be found to incentivize the reallocation and mobilization of that capital towards sustainable development.

23. Although Jamaica ranked high on the Human Development Index in many categories, income inequality was still a major obstacle; Jamaica's Gini

coefficient had been 45.5 in 2013. Along with its Caribbean Community colleagues, his country had called for a review of the graduation criteria used by international financial institutions. Gross domestic product per capita must be supplemented by data that took into account structural gaps impeding the development of middle-income countries, including levels of vulnerability, poverty, savings and investment, productivity and innovation, and public expenditures on health, education, and infrastructure.

24. The Prime Minister of Jamaica had recently informed the General Assembly that the time had come for the international community to converge around an initiative for heavily indebted middle-income countries, underpinned by the principle that countries that had structural vulnerabilities, such as small size or susceptibility to climate change, and had responsibly and faithfully serviced their debt, must be provided with assistance in the form of investment, favourable trade, technology transfer, security, and energy. The collective size of the problem was such that the initiative would not burden the international system. However, the impact of assisting those countries in transitioning would enable them to make greater contributions to the international system in the near future.

25. **Ms. Rodriguez Abascal** (Cuba) said that her delegation looked forward to taking part in consultations characterized by constructive debate and respect between delegations and a commitment to working together under equal conditions, taking into account the different realities, capabilities and levels of development of each country, while respecting their policy space, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations. The imposition of non-consensual proposals that represented only the interests of developed countries was not an appropriate working method for the Committee. Developing countries chose their development model in a sovereign manner and their voices must be heard and respected. There was a need for compromise, political will and cooperation between all Member States.

26. Annual military spending of 1.7 trillion dollars belied affirmations that there were no resources to eliminate poverty and underdevelopment. Conflicts between peoples must be ended, and the root causes of those conflicts must be eliminated. Eradicating poverty in all of its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, was the greatest challenge facing the world and constituted a prerequisite for sustainable development.

27. A majority of the international community had repeatedly rejected the imposition of unilateral coercive measures that prevented peoples from fully achieving economic and social development, especially in developing countries. Cuba strongly rejected that practice and once again urged States to refrain from unilaterally promulgating and applying such measures, which were incompatible with international law and the Charter of the United Nations. For more than 50 years, the people of Cuba had endured the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the Government of the United States of America. The right to development in Cuba was limited by the negative effects of the blockade, whose economic damages amounted to over US$ 753 billion. Despite the ongoing impact of the blockade, the Cuban people continued to develop the economic and social model that they had chosen in a sovereign manner in order to build a sovereign, prosperous and sustainable nation.

28. Climate change represented a real threat to human survival and demanded the highest degree of international cooperation. The Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change represented an important starting point, but was not sufficient to preserve the planet for future generations. Industrialized nations must take responsibility for their ecological debt, change their irrational patterns of production and consumption, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and honour the commitments made regarding financing and the transfer of technology to developing countries. The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities must govern that process.

29. Cuba reiterated the imperative need to achieve a new international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interests and cooperation between all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, that would make it possible to correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, eliminate the growing disparities between developed and developing countries, and guarantee fair economic and social development for current and future generations.

30. South-South cooperation remained important for development, but owing to limited resources, it could not be a substitute for North-South cooperation. The upcoming quadrennial comprehensive policy review would be a good opportunity to reaffirm the principles that guided the activities of the United Nations at the country level.. The outcome of that review should contribute to the strengthening of the principles of multilateralism and international cooperation as well as the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations and its agencies, funds and programmes. It must ensure that the system responded effectively to the needs of developing countries and the efforts of Governments to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development.

31. **Ms. Nguyen** (Viet Nam) said that her delegation was encouraged by the progress made in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda; however, a long and bumpy road lay ahead. The Committee must ensure the integration and advancement of all three dimensions of development equally. It therefore must adopt an integrated, balanced and holistic approach in dealing with important issues like poverty eradication, financing for development, operational activities, global climate and partnership.

32. Poverty eradication was the overarching objective; as a multifaceted issue, it must be addressed with all available synergies, striving to reach those furthest behind. The international community must not only deliver on the commitments to provide more resources for development but also promote a more enabling and predictable environment for new resources to be created and maintained, especially for those most in need.

33. The achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals depended on the means of implementation. Support for developing countries, including financial assistance, trade facilitation, transfer of technology and capacity-building, was fundamental and should be tailored to specific needs and constraints. North-South cooperation remained central, and the fulfilment of the official development assistance commitments was paramount. Avenues must be created to enable developing countries to engage in global trade; that goal could only be achieved through a multilateral trading system that was universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, non-discriminatory and equitable. Structural changes were needed to address the imbalances, discrimination, and inequities in the global trading system and to prevent trade restrictions and distortions. Developing countries were also facing a widening technology gap, especially a digital divide; all stakeholders must assist developing countries with capacity-building and green technology.

34. Viet Nam was heartened that the Paris Agreement would soon enter into force, and was accelerating its internal procedures to achieve ratification as soon as possible. Adaptation to climate change was urgent for the survival and sustainability of many developing countries; developed countries must continue to take the lead in climate financing, technology transfer, and capacity-building for developing countries.

35. Since 70 per cent of the world's poor lived in middle-income countries and faced challenges that were not measurable on the income scale, more integrated and focused support must be given to those countries, including financial assistance, quality policy advice, and capacity-building, to enable them to sustain their achievements and continue development.

36. **Mr. Morales** (Colombia) said that the commitment to leave no-one behind would entail the adoption of innovative domestic and international commitments, in order to close gaps and achieve equality within and between countries. The technology divide was a determining factor in the social and economic disparities that were hindering development not only for population groups but also for States with limited or no access. The Technology Facilitation Mechanism agreed to in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda must be fully implemented.

37. One of the greatest challenges to achieving sustainable development in all countries was the ability to take advantage of the positive potential of migration. Defining the dates and periodicity for the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development would be a priority for the Committee in 2016. The draft resolution on that matter must ensure consistency between the Dialogue, the conference to adopt a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration in 2018, and the review of Sustainable Development Goal 10 scheduled for 2019.

38. For the 2030 Agenda to succeed, an enabling international environment was required that supported national and regional efforts. Concrete progress must

continue to be made on systemic issues. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda lacked the degree of ambition, specificity and concreteness required to create a more level playing field and effectively support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The development system of the United Nations must support the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda by strengthening institutional capacity and national ownership, which must be reflected in the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. The review must ensure that the United Nations development system could respond in an effective, coordinated, and specific way to the needs of middle-income countries, which faced serious challenges to achieving sustainable development and eradicating poverty.

39. **Mr. Ja'afari** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that for many peoples, the road to development depended firstly on developing partnerships and secondly on building societies that were free from violence and extremism; both those objectives should be accomplished without double standards and on the basis of respect for national sovereignty and cultural specificities. Most States faced their own particular development challenges that could not be addressed by a one-size-fits-all approach. In his country, the principal challenge to development was the spread of terrorism and extremism, which not only undermined security and stability, but threatened the principle of coexistence that lay at the heart of Syrian identity. He called on Member States to work earnestly and impartially to fulfil their obligations under the Security Council resolutions on combating the financing of terrorism.

40. The first order of business in implementing the 2030 Agenda should be the abolition of unilateral economic measures, which were being imposed on his country by the very States that most loudly proclaimed their concern for the Syrian people. Just a few days earlier, a report published jointly by the Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Syria and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia had shown that the unilateral measures imposed against Syria by the United States of America and the European Union were affecting all segments of the Syrian population across all sectors, and were also impeding the delivery of humanitarian aid. Meanwhile, Israel was not only continuing to appropriate natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the occupied Syrian Golan, but was also actively prolonging the crisis in Syria by providing support to the Nusrah Front and other armed terrorist groups in the area of separation in the Syrian Golan in violation of the Disengagement Agreement. Without genuine international solidarity and partnership, the goal of leavingno one behind would remain nothing but an empty slogan.

41. **Mr. Perera** (Sri Lanka) said that the 2030 Agenda was a visionary plan of action that had the potential to transform the lives of billions of people. In the implementation stage, Member States must end poverty and hunger; protect the planet from degradation; and ensure that all human beings could lead prosperous and fulfilling lives.

42. His country had been the first in the Asia-Pacific region to establish a Ministry for Sustainable Development and, as the current chair of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, it was also uniquely positioned to implement the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level, thereby setting a precedent for the region. A national sustainable development act currently before parliament was intended to facilitate the formulation of a national policy and strategy on sustainable development and provide a related legal and institutional framework in which ministries, local governments and public sector agencies would have a mandate to carry out audits and provide annual progress reports.

43. The Ministry for Sustainable Development had begun to develop a national sustainable development road map for the purpose of planning for an inclusive transformation, and had launched national and provincial sustainable development engagement platforms involving political and administrative representatives, local government, civil society, academia, the private sector, development agencies, women and young people. The ultimate goal was to create a model for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in three phases: 2017 to 2020; 2020 to 2025; and 2025 to 2030.

44. Poverty was a serious challenge in Sri Lanka. His country had succeeded in halving poverty at the national level seven years before 2015, but poverty remained the greatest obstacle to development. Economic development should therefore go hand in

hand with sustainable development. His Government had declared 2017 the year of freedom from poverty.

45. A nation needed to be at peace with itself and other nations in order to achieve sustainable development. The recent political transition in his country had created peacebuilding opportunities following a 30-year conflict. Also required were good governance, the rule of law and respect for human rights. The current political climate in his country provided an enabling environment for the achievement of those objectives.

46. Sri Lanka had almost achieved the targets of universal primary education and had made progress towards achieving gender equality in education. Child and maternal mortality rates had been greatly reduced. It had also given a high priority to combating HIV/AIDS and other diseases. In September 2016, the World Health Organization had declared Sri Lanka a malaria-free country.

47. Rising to the challenge of climate change was key to protecting the planet for future generations. His country had therefore signed the Paris Agreement and deposited the instrument of ratification on 21 September 2016.

48. **Ms. Krishnamurti** (Indonesia) said that emerging market and developing countries were facing strong headwinds, including weaker growth among advanced economies and low commodity prices. Island countries and coastline populations had already been severely affected by climate effects, including rising sea levels and longer, more intense heat waves. However, through collective action, it was possible to overcome the odds. The Committee had a key role in formulating consensus to support the implementation of the 2030 agenda and must be active in integrating the three pillars of sustainable development.

49. Inclusive growth and shared prosperity were essential to ensure that no-one was left behind. By using technology and innovation to create jobs and increase productivity, trade and investment could be re-energized. Enhancing connectivity through infrastructure development was paramount to a modern economy, including the blue economy. Opportunities for partnerships and collaboration existed and should take into account specific country and community needs, for which programmes should be tailor-made. Developing capacity to assess and apply the appropriate technology to the local context was an urgent priority; if necessary, special and differential treatment should be provided to assist countries in their development efforts. Business as usual would not bring the needed transformation. A new level of engagement was required for the entire United Nations system; the development system must work as one and be ready to provide targeted and tailored support. The quadrennial comprehensive policy review would be important in clarifying the vision for the new role of the system.

50. Indonesia had integrated the Sustainable Development Goals into its medium-term development plan. It would use the framework of the Goals to strengthen planning, coordination, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of its development programs.

51. **Mr. Rai** (Papua New Guinea) said that the lessons learned from the Millennium Development Goals should help States to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals to peoples and countries and thereby ensure a transformative sustainable future. Papua New Guinea had established a national strategy for responsible sustainable development, which was a blueprint for its review and integration of sustainable development actions. Although much remained to be done, the 2030 Agenda had led to a paradigm shift in the way countries approached national development. The positive early start of work on the Sustainable Development Goals stood in stark contrast to the Millennium Development Goals.

52. National leadership, ownership and policy space were key to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the country level. External partnerships and development cooperation, including South-South cooperation and North-South cooperation, would contribute to national efforts and the former should be a complement to, and not a replacement for, the latter. Development cooperation should be aligned with national development policies and strategies and should build national capacity in areas determined by national authorities.

53. In his country, as in many others, credible and timely disaggregated data were needed to support the 2030 Agenda. For that purpose, capacity-building, technical assistance and transfers of technology were key aspects of development cooperation. A centralized

data and statistics bank covering the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets and indicators would facilitate the follow-up and review process. Development partners such as Australia and the United Nations had recognized that concern and were working with Papua New Guinea to strengthen its national statistics office.

54. The high-level political forum on sustainable development had done constructive work and its outcomes had helped his country to shape its sustainable development aspirations. The principle of leaving no one behind reflected the importance of the promotion and protection of human rights in an enabling environment for sustainable development. A key element of that principle related to the adverse effects of climate change. Small island developing States in particular were vulnerable to those effects and faced challenges such as rising sea levels, the loss of arable land, ocean acidification and inclement weather patterns. Countries that had not yet ratified the Paris Agreement should do so without delay; the early implementation of the Agreement would reassure peoples and countries on the front lines of climate change that they would not be left behind.

55. A key sustainable development issue for Papua New Guinea, as an archipelagic State, was the health, productivity and resilience of the oceans. As a champion of Sustainable Development Goal 14 during the Open Working Group process and in the post-2015 consultation process, his country had continued to highlight the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and seas, whose health was under stress primarily as a result of human activities such as illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and activities that caused pollution and acidification. The high-level United Nations conference on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 should therefore advance action on the development agenda relating to oceans and seas. Furthermore, the quadrennial comprehensive policy review should provide the United Nations development system with adequate guidance in its efforts to assist countries with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

56. **Mr. Sobral Duarte** (Brazil) said that the high-level political forum on sustainable development had demonstrated that althoughmany countries had shown progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, a few developed countries had been focusing mainly on development assistance, as in the case of the Millennium Development Goals. The message should be clear that all countries, including the developed countries, must implement the Sustainable Development Goals, and the United Nations development system must adapt to live up to that challenge.

57. His delegation suggested that the Committee and the Economic and Social Council convene a joint meeting at which the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Financing for Development Office could brief the membership of the Committee and the Council on the follow-up mechanisms for the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Such a meeting could offer an assessment of gaps in human, financial and budgetary resources and consolidate them to make the mechanisms more effective.

58. The Committee's draft resolution concerning the quadrennial comprehensive policy review must enable the United Nations development system to adequately support the development of national capacities and the review and monitoring of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Agencies, funds and programmes should contribute to the creation of an international environment that led to the full eradication of poverty and the global and local achievement of sustainable development.

59. The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) was a once-in-a-generation opportunity to discuss the rapid growth in urban populations, a phenomenon which would continue, primarily in developing countries, over the next 30 years. The New Urban Agenda was in tune with an increasingly urbanized planet and with the need to incorporate local governments and civil society into the decision-making processes.

60. Brazil had ratified the Paris Agreement; its nationally determined contribution was among the most ambitious of developed and developing countries alike, projecting a reduction of 43 per cent in emissions of greenhouse gases by 2030. It was also integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into its short-, medium- and long-term strategies. However, a successful outcome at the global level could be achieved only if resources were provided that matched

the ambition and transformative nature of the Sustainable Development Goals.

61. **Ms. Mendelson** (United States of America) said that the momentum that had led to the achievements of the past year needed to be preserved in order to demonstrate that the United Nations, and the Committee in particular, could make further gains. The draft resolution on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, for instance, wouldserve as an opportunity to promote reform of the various United Nations agencies involved in the delivery of development and humanitarian assistance, and make their work more effective.

62. The Committee's failed revitalization effort in the spring of 2016 had called into question its value as a dynamic forum for finding solutions to the most pressing economic, social and environmental challenges. The Committee needed to adapt itself in order to meaningfully address global development priorities. Resources were limited, and it was important not to squander them in arguments over narrow and irrelevant considerations. The Committee could not allow itself to repeat the mistakes made at its previous session, during which draft resolution submission deadlines had been routinely ignored and negotiations had continued well beyond the official closing of the session. It must conclude its work efficiently and on time. If the Committee did not act in a more dignified and professional manner, her delegation would view it as less relevant and would therefore devote less time to negotiation, and be more willing to call for votes on contentious draft resolutions.

63. Her delegation firmly believed that the Member States could indeed work together to formulate concrete solutions to the world's most difficult challenges, as had been demonstrated by several high-level multilateral events over the previous year. Though it was likely that consensus would not always be within reach, the key to success was to communicate early and often, rather than allow mistrust to build. It was important to work together to ensure that the draft resolutions to be adopted by the Committee were aligned with the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other recent transformative, multilateral agreements, and that the Committee provided political guidance to the United Nations development system to implement such agreements and evaluate their outcomes.

64. **Mr. Pedersen** (Norway) said that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Paris Agreement called for new strategic partnerships at all levels to eradicate poverty through sustainable development. National implementation was key.

65. His country had to presented its national voluntary review to the high-level political forum on Sustainable Development and now looked forward to accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals domestically and through international cooperation. In presenting Norway's voluntary review, the Prime Minister of Norway had stressed that the Goals were the main track to address the root causes of poverty and had emphasized both the universality of the agenda and the need for international solidarity. Poverty was avoidable and unacceptable; collective efforts must be stepped up to prevent and curb conflicts, build basic infrastructure, and reach the most vulnerable. His country would continue to provide substantial financial assistance at levels well above the 0.7 per cent target for official development assistance.

66. The United Nations must do its part; the quadrennial comprehensive policy review would be an opportunity to transform the United Nations development system into a more strategic, coordinated and focused system that took appropriate and timely action. The United Nations must focus its efforts where the needs were greatest and where it could make the greatest impact. A differentiated approach based on each country's context was required.

67. Funding was the driver for change. Core resources remained crucial, particularly for normative functions and policy advice, and improved burden-sharing was needed. Adherence to the principle of full cost recovery would enhance core resources. Core-like funding modalities should be increased, especially those that provided incentives for United Nations bodies to work together. The United Nations must do better in delivering as one at the country level. An independent resident coordinator with authority and sufficient resources was a prerequisite in that regard.

68. Ownership, leadership, and partnerships at all levels were required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The United Nations system must support implementation and promote consistent and accountable follow-up by and for all. His country would work with other delegations to find constructive ways to strengthen the work of the Committee and update its agenda in order to ensure relevance, impact and added value. Business as usual would no longer suffice.

69. **Ms. Guadey** (Ethiopia) said that the Committee should focus on identifying practical challenges and solutions to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. That work had begun at a turbulent time; even so, the Agenda could address the challenges if it was implemented in a comprehensive and balanced manner. The world had adequate financial and human resources to end poverty, adapt to climate change and manage natural and humanitarian crises. What was needed was a genuine and revitalized global partnership so that through collective responsibility, according to differentiated abilities, a life of dignity and prosperity could be ensured for all peoples.

70. Since the commitments in the context of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda had not yet been fulfilled, it was crucial to mobilize financing from all sources and align it with the Sustainable Development Goals. Foreign direct investment should be aligned with national development priorities, and institutional coordination should be strengthened by robust follow-up and monitoring mechanisms. It was critical to create an enabling environment to achieve inclusive and sustainable development.

71. The Paris Agreement must be fully implemented; in particular, new and additional financial resources and transfer of technology were needed for developing countries, especially the most vulnerable countries. Her country was committed to ratifying the Agreement in 2016.

72. Recognizing that it was the primary responsibility of national governments to ensure development, Ethiopia was continuing to put poverty eradication at the centre of its development agenda and had commenced the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The country's extraordinarily fast growth had continued in spite of the frail international economic environment, thereby improving the well-being of the people and enhancing competitiveness. Ethiopia was working towards becoming a zero-carbon and climate-resilient middle-income country by 2025. It faced several obstacles to its national development endeavour, however, including a lack of good governance, unemployment, weak export performance, an increasing trade deficit and the impact of El Niño. There was a need for enhanced and revitalized international support and cooperation; it was only through intensive global engagement that the 2030 Agenda could be implemented for the benefit of all.

73. **Mr. Blanchard** (Canada), said that in a world in which weak economic growth seemed to have become the norm, the Committee needed to consider whether its work would contribute towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, includingmeasures that would spur economic growth and development and eliminate the scourge of poverty and hunger, foster the scaling-up of private sector investment in sustainable development, and attract capital to areas traditionally overlooked by global investment flows, such as small island States and least developed countries, all while remaining conscious of the social and environmental impact of those actions.

74. His country's approach to the 2030 Agenda was guided by the profound belief that diversity was a source of strength. Canada would promote measures that strengthened social inclusion, intercultural dialogue and understanding, tolerance and mutual respect, pluralism and peaceful coexistence. At the international level, it was refocusing its assistance on the poorest and most vulnerable, particularly in fragile States, in line with the Agenda. It looked forward to increased collaboration and the involvement of new actors to address global challenges in innovative ways that enhanced capacity-building, trade, governance, gender equality and security to ensure that no one was left behind and that the furthest behind were reached first.

75. In the context of the Paris Agreement, the Canadian Prime Minister had stated that developing countries should not be punished for problems they had not created, and should have equal access to opportunities for clean growth pursued by developed countries. The current session of the Committee must be guided by a spirit of cooperation and partnership;

collective action was needed in order to implement the 2030 Agenda.

76. **Mr. Adeoye** (Nigeria) said that the seventy-first session of the General Assembly would pave the way for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In that regard, the work of the Committee should establish a robust implementation framework, target poverty eradication and pursue all three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced, coordinated and integrated manner.

77. Countries had an obligation to implement the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular by curbing illicit financial flows and developing mechanisms to return the related resources and assets to the countries of origin; removing restrictive trade measures and unfair barriers to international trade; and ensuring a transparent international financial system. His country remained committed to the Abuja Declaration adopted during the African Regional Preparatory Meeting on the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III). Funding should be increased to cover the increase in housing needs of rural-to-urban migrants.

78. **Mr. Pisarevich** (Belarus) said that sluggish global economic growth, uncertain prospects and, above all, geopolitical instability, would have an adverse impact on efforts to eradicate poverty and inequality in implementation of to the 2030 Agenda. Because decisions on the world economy fell primarily to organizations and mechanisms other than the United Nations, such as the Group of 20, the United Nations was unable to make full use of its potential to address sustainable development challenges. It should therefore establish more productive relations with such mechanisms, especially the Group of 20, with which it should cooperate on sustainable development in a complementary manner. Consultations should be held between Member States of the United Nations and the Group of 20 just prior to the summit meetings of that Group to discuss priority sustainable development issues.

79. With regional integration an important new trend, regional blocs were taking on an autonomy previously exercised only by States. There was a need for cooperation mechanisms among regional processes, analogous to the cooperation mechanisms that existed for States. Belarus, which was an active participant in a number of regional integration processes, believed in the benefits of strengthened cooperation between regional initiatives. In order to contribute to an approach that could be termed 'integrating integration,' Belarus would be hosting an international conference in Minsk on the topic, with support from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe The conference outcome should contribute to the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals through regional integration processes.

80. The main idea of the Sustainable Development Goals, leaving no one behind, should apply not only to individuals and groups of people, as many interpreted it, but also to States and groups of States. It could hardly be said that the United Nations ensured inclusivity in respect of all groups of States, particularly middle-income States. The sustainable development challenges facing those States were well-known, but there were no specific mechanisms within the United Nations for cooperating with those countries. They were the only group of countries that lacked a policy document, such as a strategy or plan of action, on cooperation with the United Nations. Accordingly, cooperation was carried out on an ad hoc basis, done one way on a given day and a different way the next. That situation must change, and a United Nations plan of action on cooperation with the middle-income countries must be formulated.

81. Committee members should not hesitate to advance ideas that might initially seem far-fetched. For example, energy was very important for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as it was closely linked to climate change, economic growth, food security and other global challenges, but the United Nations lacked a comprehensive approach to that issue. Its various aspects were considered by a range of organizations, from the International Atomic Energy Agency to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to the International Renewable Energy Agency. In that context, a proposal that Belarus had put forth some time earlier, to set up an integrated United Nations energy agenda, remained very timely, and could be achieved through the adoption of a General Assembly resolution.

82. Improving the working methods of the Organization and synchronizing the activities of its various bodies were unquestionably important to the

implementation of the 2030 Agenda but must not become interminable processes or ends in themselves. The United Nations and its Member States should not fall prey to bureaucracy and protocol, as the Agenda was a matter of life and death for real human beings.

83. **Mr. Al-Nuaimi** (United Arab Emirates) said that although it was not possible to adopt a specific resolution for each and every Sustainable Development Goal, he hoped that the Committee would give due consideration to all aspects of the 2030 Agenda. He reminded Member States that foreign occupation was a major obstacle to development for many peoples, and urged them to be mindful of the rights of observer States. It was important to address the root causes of poverty, as well as conflict, through resolutions that stressed universal access to the minimum standards for a life of dignity, including access to clean drinking water, health services, education, energy and information and communications technology.

84. His country had dramatically reduced the costs of solar energy, making that sector a significant contributor to economic growth and job creation. The United Arab Emirates had been among the first countries in its region to ratify the Paris Agreement. It believed that sustainable development could not be attained without the participation of women, and its commitment to mainstreaming gender was reflected by the presence of five woman ministers in its Cabinet. Over 200 nationalities lived side by side in the United Arab Emirates in an atmosphere of religious and cultural tolerance; his Government had appointed a Minister of State for Tolerance, in the belief that extremist ideologies were the biggest obstacles facing development.

85. The United Arab Emirates was incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals into its national development plan, UAE Vision 2021, and was proud to be one of the world's leading per capita contributors to official development assistance, at 1 per cent of its GDP. It would be hosting several major international events on sustainable development in the coming year, and looked forward to the adoption of the New Urban Agenda at the upcoming Habitat III Conference.

86. **Ms. Lodhi** (Pakistan) said that a new global development paradigm endorsed and owned by every country, had been crafted in 2015. The 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement had renewed faith in multilateralism and international development cooperation, but posed key implementation and leadership challenges. Political support and ownership should be reinforced. Some of the challenges faced by developing countries, such as climate change, hunger and poverty, could not be addressed without comprehensive support mechanisms; matching resources would be a critical test of renewed global partnership. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda provided deliverables complementing the means outlined in the 2030 agenda itself, and official development assistance commitments remained an important source of financing in many developing countries, particularly small island developing States and least developed countries. The 2030 Agenda needed follow-up and periodic reviews if it was to remain central.

87. Thematic discussions and national reviews during the high-level political forum on sustainable development had shown that the international community was moving in the right direction, but much remained to be done. The Committee should therefore mainstream the Sustainable Development Goals and targets into its agenda. The range of issues addressed by the Sustainable Development Goals and their universal nature required a recalibration of the United Nations development system to take into account institutional, organizational, functional, financial and operational aspects. Institutional recalibration and inertia in governance systems remained a challenge; the United Nations should be made responsive to the emerging needs of the developing world in a transparent and inclusive manner. The quadrennial comprehensive policy review provided an opportunity to address that issue in a holistic manner.

88. Pakistan had always emphasized the role of trade in development. Persistent inequities in the international economic and trading systems needed to be addressed. Many concerns of developing countries relating to agriculture, misuse of subsidies, intellectual property rights, and the opaque and restricted use of various standards remained unresolved. Greater collaboration to address inequities and ensure inclusion in trade, finance and investment would be needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

89. Climate change was one of the defining issues of the current era. It was encouraging that 62 States Parties, accounting for around 52 per cent of total

global greenhouse gas emissions, had ratified the Paris Agreement. Pakistan had signed the agreement on the day it was opened for signature and remained committed to implementing it: it had initiated procedures for early ratification.

90. The right of self-determination was enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. During the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the suffering of peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation must not be overlooked. Obstacles to the full realization of their right of self-determination should be removed in order to enable them to achieve economic and social development and implement the Sustainable Development Goals. They must not be left behind.

91. **Mr. Saikal** (Afghanistan) said that the high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for least developed countries and the high-level political forum on sustainable development would provide guidance for the sustainable development process and had been opportunities to exchange views on common challenges, best practices and lessons learned. Coherence in the United Nations system should be fostered by adopting a holistic approach to sustainable development and honouring the promise to leave no one behind. That meant addressing the needs of countries in special situations, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, which had always faced unique challenges given that conflict not only impeded but also reversed development gains. The Committee should prioritize strengthening of the link between peace and security, and development. To that end, Sustainable Development Goal 16 should be mainstreamed into the draft resolutions and documents adopted by the Committee.

92. The financing for development commitments made in Addis Ababa must be fulfilled. Indeed, official development assistance, especially for least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, was key to supporting sustainable development and economic growth. Meanwhile, Afghanistan would ratify the Paris Agreement since it was highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change even though it had not been responsible for the problem in the first place. The international community should fulfil its financial commitments to developing countries so as to build their capacity to adapt.

93. It was important to build synergies between the high-level midterm review and the 2030 Agenda. Furthermore, the timely implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction would ensure more effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The quadrennial comprehensive policy review was of the utmost importance in ensuring the alignment of the United Nations development system with the 2030 Agenda and should pay special attention to the transition from relief to development, the funding of core resources, poverty eradication and the needs of countries in special situations.

94. The Brussels Conference on Afghanistan would provide a platform for his Government, the international community and other partners to reaffirm and consolidate their partnership for peace and prosperity in Afghanistan. For that important occasion, his Government had prepared a national peace and development framework which was a five-year strategic plan for achieving self-reliance and sustainable development, reducing poverty and ensuring security and stability. The framework had been developed in accordance with the goals and targets set out in the 2030 Agenda and was intended to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals while addressing the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals. His Government had also developed a roadmap for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, guided by a national coordination committee. Other technical working groups involving his Government, parliament, United Nations agencies, civil society and the private sector had also been established to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

95. **Mr. Nduhuura** (Uganda) said that the world was at a critical juncture, with serious global challenges to be faced. Now was the time to act and deliver on commitments in order to transform communities without leaving anyone behind.

96. Uganda had integrated climate change policies and the Sustainable Development Goals into its national development plans. His country had offered to participate in the first voluntary progress review during the high-level political forum on sustainable

development in July 2016. It had enacted enabling laws, such as the Public Finance Management Act and the Public Private Partnership Act of 2015, in order to mobilize the necessary resources from both public and private sectors and had also recently ratified the Paris Agreement.

97. His country was actively involved in regional integration initiatives to facilitate job creation by expanding regional markets, foreign direct investment and tourism. Policies and programmes had been created for youth employment, student loans, social assistance for the elderly, legal aid, women's entrepreneurship and skills development for disadvantaged groups. His Government looked forward to working with international partners to achieve the objectives set out in its development plans.

98. The international financial system must foster an atmosphere that was conducive to enabling developing countries to gain access to long-term financing. The World Trade Organization must conclude the Doha Round of negotiations to facilitate access to markets for less developed countries through special and differential treatment.

99. It must be borne in mind that all 17 goals of the 2030 Agenda were interlinked and equally important. The Goals must be implemented together, so that no section of society was left behind.

100. Mass movements of refugees had introduced new dynamics to sustainable global development. Uganda was now the eighth largest hosting country in the world, and the third by gross domestic product. Although global asylum space was dwindling, his country had incorporated refugee protection and management into the national development plan and the United Nations development assistance framework and the needs of host communities had been integrated into the refugee response. Uganda welcomed partnership and support from all stakeholders to ease the pressure resulting from the massive influx of refugees given that it would soon be host to over 1 million refugees.

101. There could be no development without peace and no peace without development. His country was optimistic that the Security Council would demonstrate leadership to resolve violent conflicts so that refugees could be repatriated and rebuild their lives.

102. **Mr. Abbas** (Lebanon) said that the focus in the second year of implementation of the 2030 Agenda should shift towards the provision of adequate means of implementation through a revitalized global partnership drawing on public and private financial resources, building capacity and facilitating transfers of technology to developing countries.

103. His country was drafting a national sustainable development plan covering various economic sectors and aligned with the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, while also introducing country-specific targets. Special attention would be devoted to goals that were considered more urgent within the national context and consultations were under way with Government ministries and agencies as well as other stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society, academia and United Nations agencies operating in Lebanon.

104. Since 2011, Lebanon had been engulfed by a humanitarian crisis resulting from the influx of over 1.2 million refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic, putting immense social, demographic, environmental and economic pressures on Lebanese society. Unemployment had risen and the limited resources and infrastructure of Lebanese host communities had been overstretched. Addressing such a formidable challenge would require not only short-term humanitarian assistance but also longer-term development financing on concessional terms, otherwise the ability of Lebanon to implement the 2030 Agenda and its national sustainable development plan would be seriously curtailed.

105. The United Nations development system would be key to assisting developing countries during the implementation and follow-up phases of the 2030 Agenda through the provision of integrated normative support, evidence-based policy advice, and capacity-building in areas such as data collection and technology facilitation. It should also help to build partnerships, bring together stakeholders and mobilize domestic and international public and private resources. For that purpose, it was important to make the United Nations development assistance framework more coherent and integrated; revitalize the resident coordinator system; ensure more predictable and sustainable funding; and improve coordination between

development and humanitarian activities, in particular during protracted crises.

106. Lebanon was about to sign a new United Nations strategic framework for 2017-2020 with a view to addressing the multi-dimensional challenges the country was facing. The expertise and resources of the United Nations should be leveraged in order to maintain peace and stability and enable Lebanon to address its security, political, governance and socioeconomic challenges and put it on the path to longer-term sustainable development.

107. The marine oil spill caused by the Israel's destruction of oil storage tanks at a power plant south of Beirut in 2006 continued to have an impact on health, economic growth and efforts to achieve sustainable development in Lebanon. The inability to contain the spread of oil immediately after the attack, as a result of an Israeli military blockade, had led to prolonged adverse effects. Lebanon relied on the international community to once again adopt a resolution calling on Israel to accept responsibility and provide prompt and adequate compensation to Lebanon.

108. **Mr. Elmajerbi** (Libya) said that translating the commitments contained in the 2030 Agenda into reality would require a coordinated response to development challenges. States needed to incorporate the three dimensions of sustainable development into their national plans on the basis of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. It was crucial for the international community to provide adequate financing, capacity-building and technology transfer to developing States.

109. While welcoming the high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants held at the current session of the General Assembly, he stressed that responsibility for meeting the challenges posed by illegal migration should not fall disproportionately on any one State. Security measures alone were not adequate, and needed to be supplemented by development programmes and economic reform in the countries of origin. His Government looked forward to the support of the United Nations and friendly States for its efforts to restore stability and restart the economy.

110. Capital flight from developing countries to both developed countries and safe havens was also retarding the pace of development. It was time for States to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption and create mechanisms for the retrieval of plundered assets, which, in the case of Libya, would provide a valuable source of financing for reconstruction. The international community also needed to devote the necessary attention to obstacles to development faced by peoples suffering under foreign occupation — in particular the Palestinian people — in accordance with the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), which had stressed the right of peoples living under foreign occupation to self-determination and the use of their resources.

111. **Mr. Ten-Pow** (Guyana) said that the seventy-first session of the General Assembly would build on the historic global agreements of 2015. The work of the Committee would have renewed significance in the context of the implementation of those agreements. Important priorities included the mainstreaming of sustainable development, creating a more conducive international environment, and devoting greater attention to challenges faced by States with particular needs. Global interdependence was an inescapable reality reflected in rising migration, climate change, poverty and hunger, and unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, as well as uneven social, economic and environmental development.

112. More attention should be devoted to small island developing States, low-lying coastal developing States and middle-income countries, which often made a disproportionate contribution to addressing global challenges but faced crippling development challenges compounded by size, geography and a lack of resources and capacity. Progress in those countries was too often reversed by climate change, natural disasters or external economic shocks that they were unable to control. Efforts to graduate those countries from concessionary financial assistance based solely on per capita gross domestic product failed to take account of those realities. Moreover, the accumulation of unsustainable levels of debt by many small island developing States prevented them from investing in the infrastructure they needed to build resistance to exogenous shocks. A supportive and responsive international framework should therefore be created to

address such factors as climate change, trade, debt, international tax cooperation, food security and natural disasters so that developing countries could make investments, build resilience and incentivize sustainable development.

113. Security and stability were also a prerequisite for fulfilling the development aspirations of developing countries. In that regard, the value of global norms enabling the enjoyment of human rights by all, the rule of law at all levels, including in relations between States, and the peaceful settlement of international disputes could not be underestimated.

114. His country was committed to achieving the good life for all of its citizens through poverty eradication, the achievement of equality, and the promotion of education. Guyana was therefore striving to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in a holistic manner and focusing on entry points in such areas as education, food security, energy and infrastructure, all of which could provide synergistic benefits for the implementation of the Agenda as a whole.

115. Guyana was an emerging "green" State committed to the interlocking objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. Guyanese lived with the constant reality of the adverse impacts of climate change, including the peril of rising sea levels. His country had therefore already signed and ratified the Paris Agreement and looked forward to its early entry into force. In working for the establishment of a "green" State, Guyana counted on the full partnership of the international community.

116. The international community would have to transcend "business as usual" approaches. Even greater vigilance was needed in preserving and discharging the important functions of the Committee as a forum for the proactive consideration, consolidation and formulation of policies tailored to the pressing development challenges of the day.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.